

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration in view of the previous amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 27-29, 31 and 32 remain under examination. By this Amendment, claim 27 is amended. Claims 1-13 have previously been withdrawn as a result of the May 15, 2008 restriction requirement. Claims 14-26, 30 and 33-37 have previously been canceled.

Applicants appreciate the indication in the Office Action that claim 29 contains allowable subject matter. Claim 29 has been placed in independent form.

The Office Action objects to claim 27. Claim 27 is amended to address the Examiner's concerns.

The Office Action rejects claims 27 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over EP-0926452 to Sanagi and rejects claims 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sanagi. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants' independent claim 27 recites pressure pulsation reduction equipment of refrigeration cycle equipment, comprising a refrigeration cycle including a compressor which is connected to a pipe that is a flow-channel. A pressure pulsation reducer is installed on at least one of a high pressure side and a low pressure side of the refrigeration cycle. The pressure pulsation reducer includes a flow-channel separator with a plurality of small holes, and the flow-channel separator is formed open on one end and in contact with a flow-channel wall in the pipe on another end.

Such a feature encompasses Applicants' exemplary embodiment as illustrated in Fig. 23 wherein refrigeration cycle equipment includes a compressor 20. Pressure

pulsation reduction reducer 30 includes a passage barrier 14 and small holes 9. The flow channel separator formed by the passage barrier 14 is formed open on one end and in contact with the pipe flow channel wall on another end.

The Sanagi reference does not disclose these features of Applicants' independent claim 27. In particular, the Sanagi reference does not disclose a compressor connected to a pipe that is a flow-channel. The Examiner asserts that a shroud 5 corresponds to the claimed flow channel separator. However, the shroud 5, as well as the other portions that make up the centrifugal fan, including the blade 6 and the hub 4, are never in contact with the flow channel wall formed by the cylindrical bell portion 8 as well as the casing 2.

As described beginning at line 20 of page 49 of Applicants' specification, when a refrigeration cycle equipment starts operating, a fluid flowing into the pressure pulsation reduction means 30 passes through the passage narrowed by the passage barrier 14. This accelerates the flow speed of the fluid. Consequently, static pressure at both ends of the small holes 9 provided around the passage is higher outside than inside. This forms a flow through the small holes 9, then a fluid blown into the narrowed passage through the small holes 9 meets a fluid flowing through the narrowed passage and is discharged from the pressure pulsation reduction means 30.

Dependent claims 28, 31 and 32 are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 27, as well as for the individual features they recite.

Early and favorable action with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

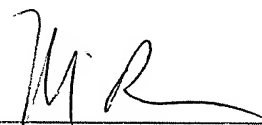
Should any questions arise in connection with this application, or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: October 23, 2008

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